

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-23 were pending. Claims 1, 7, 19 and 23 have been amended, claim 2 has been canceled and new claims 24-41 have been added. Therefore, upon entry of this amendment, which is respectfully requested, claims 1 and 3-41 will be pending.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indicated allowability of claims 19-22. Claim 19 has been amended to more clearly point out that the first (histogram calculation) unit receives a signal carrying a first temporal parameter.

Claims 2 and 7-9 were objected to, but indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Responsive to this indication, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 2 and claim 2 has been canceled. Additionally, claim 7, which depended from claim 2 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully asserted that claim 1 and claims 3-18 depending directly or indirectly therefrom are allowable.

Claim 23 has also been amended to include the limitations of claim 2, and as such is believed to be in allowable form as well.

Claims 1, 3-6, 12-16 and 23 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Hashimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,625,717). In addition, claims 10-11 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto et al. in view of Yasui et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,091,833), and claims 17-18 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto et al. in view of Andi (U.S. Patent No. 5,008,946). In view of the amendments to independent claims 1 and 23, it is believed that these rejections are now moot as these independent claims now include limitations indicated by the Examiner to render the claims allowable.

New claims 24-41 have been added. Independent claim 24 includes the limitations of originally filed claim 1 as well as limitations from originally filed claim 19. Specifically, claims 24 recites the limitations of original claim 1 and first and second histogram calculation units, one for receiving a signal carrying a temporal parameter and one for receiving two spatial signals, as set forth in (allowed) claim 19. Support for this is present throughout the specification, for example FIG 47

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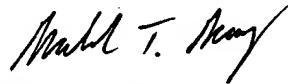
and associated description. It is respectfully asserted that claims 24 and all claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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